

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER
FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 & § 1.98**

SIR:

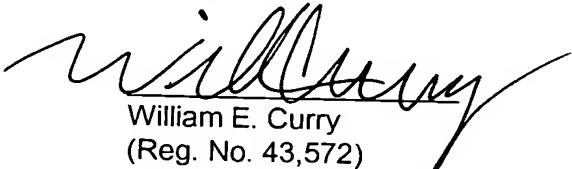
In conformance with Applicants' duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and § 1.97(b)(3), the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449 are hereby brought to the Examiner's attention.

The first five references listed under "U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS" and the first four references listed under "FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS" were cited in the International Search Report of the corresponding PCT/US02/04171. Copies of these references and Search Report are enclosed. The remaining references have been considered in U.S. Application No. 09/553,234 (now patent no. 6,233,776 B1), of which the present application is a CIP.

It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear in the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 9, 2002


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FORM PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT(S)

Atty Docket No. : 10551/321
 Serial No. : 10/074,026
 Inventors : Ronald D. Blum et al.
 Filed : 14 February 2002
 Group Art Unit : 2641
 Examiner :

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Patent Number	Patent Date	Name	Class/ Subclass	Filing Date
	6,233,776	05/22/01	BLUM et al.	15/215	
	6,219,876	04/24/01	BLUM	15/215	
	5,839,976	11/24/98	DARR .	473/414	
	5,826,874	10/27/98	TEITEL et al.	473/225	
	4,720,789	01/19/88	HECTOR et al.	364/410	
	2,254,830	09/1941	SCHLOSS	4/185	
	2,843,868	07/1958	BORGSTRON	15/215	
	2,919,456	01/1960	SPIVEY	15/215	
	3,078,490	02/1963	ETCHER	15/216	
	3,038,393	04/1963	NAPPI	15/215	
	3,141,522	07/1964	FITZPATRICK	184/106	
	3,183,116	05/1965	SCHAAR		
	3,400,421	09/1968	NAPPI	15/215	
	3,435,481	04/1969	KESSLER	15/215	
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	3,665,543	05/1972	NAPPI	15/215	
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	3,906,578	09/1975	HUBER	15/104.002	
	3,909,996	10/1975	ETTLINGER, Jr. et al	52/177	
	4,107,811	08/1978	IMSANDE	15/215	
	4,143,194	03/1979	WIHKSNE	428/81	

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	4,353,944	10/1982	TARUI	428/74	
	4,421,809	12/1983	BISH et al.	428/90	
	4,435,451	03/1984	NEUBERT	128/15	
	4,439,474	03/1984	SAGEL	428/90	
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	4,609,580	09/1986	ROCKETT et al.	428/198	
	4,614,679	09/1986	FARRINGTON, Jr.	428/138	
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	4,720,789	01/1988	HECTOR et al.	364/410	
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_____	5,589,246	12/1996	CALHOUN	428/120	
_____	5,658,637	08/1997	VOLZ	428/95	
_____	5,815,995	10/1998	ADAM	15/215	
_____	5,826,874	10/1998	TEITELL et al.	473/225	
_____	5,839,976	11/1998	DARR	473/414	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>Examiner Initial</u>	<u>Document Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Class/ Subclass</u>	<u>Translation Yes</u>	<u>Translation No</u>
_____	2001-306096	02/11/01	Japan		X	
_____	2000-322009	11/24/00	Japan		X	
_____	11-109901	04/23/99	Japan		X	
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_____	0 794 244 A1	09/1997	EP	C11D/1/83		
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_____	WO 00/16682	3/2000	WO			
_____	WO 00/19871	4/2000	WO			
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- _____ 2. Protective Products Advertisement.
- _____ 3. Sole-Parmer Advertisement.
- _____ 4. 3m Clean-Walk Mat., 5800 Series, Technical Data, July 1995.

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